

Appl. No. 09/863,818  
Amdt. Dated May 21, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of December 5, 2003

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-20. (Cancelled).

Claim 21. (Previously amended) A binding composition comprising an antigen binding site of an antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:12.

Claim 22. (Currently twice amended) The binding composition of Claim 21 ~~that is,~~  
wherein, the binding composition is:

- a) a humanized antibody;
- b) a polyclonal antibody;
- c) a monoclonal antibody;
- d) an Fv fragment;
- e) an Fab fragment; or
- f) an F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragment.

Claim 23. (Previously amended) The binding composition of Claim 21 further comprising a carrier.

Claim 24. (Currently twice amended) A kit comprising the binding composition of Claim 21, and:

- a) a compartment containing the binding composition; and
- b) ~~a source of~~ DCRS9 (SEQ ID NO:12) polypeptide as a positive control.

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Claim 25. (Currently twice amended) A method of producing an antigen:binding composition complex, comprising contacting ~~under appropriate conditions~~ a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:12 with the binding composition of Claim 21 under suitable conditions to allow, ~~thereby allowing~~ the complex to form.

Claim 26. (Cancelled).

Claim 27. (Previously added) The binding composition of Claim 21, further comprising a detectable label.